

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert the following centered subheading on page 1, after the title:

**FIELD OF TECHNOLOGY**

Please insert the following centered subheading on page 1, between lines 5 and 6:

**BACKGROUND**

Please insert the following centered subheading on page 1, between lines 14 and 15:

**SUMMARY**

Please insert the following centered subheading on page 4, between lines 15 and 16:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS**

Please insert the following centered subheading on page 4, between lines 21 and 22:

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 3, as follows:

A customer wishing to send content 25 such as video or audio over the network 10 will provide the data at an input 26 of the sending station. The sending station 16 has

a copying stage 28 which copies the content from the customer, the content being passed to the first input 30a of the network as a first stream of data 32a for transmission over the first path 12a, whilst the same content is passed to the second input 30b of the network as a second stream of data 30b, for transmission over the second path 12b. (Alternatively, the customer may provide the duplicate signal streams, in which case the copying stage will not be required). The first and second streams of data are respectively received by the receiving station 18. The receiving station has a switching element 40 for selectively connecting one of the two paths 12a, 12b to an output 42 of the receiving station 18, such that the signal stream from the connected path can be passed to the customer's intended recipient. The signal stream received from the other path is normally redundant when both paths are operational. However, if a fault is detected in the connected path by a detector circuit 44 coupled to the switching element 40, the detector circuit generates a fault signal which causes the switching element 40 to selectively connect the output 42 of the receiving station 18 to the other (previously redundant) path. In this way, the content data input at the receiving ~~sending~~-station 18 can continue to be received at the receiving station output 42 even if one of the two paths experiences a fault.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 8 line 7 as follows:

Returning to Figure 1, the reading ~~receiving~~-stage 52 of the receiving station 18 is provided with a clock stage 64 for recording the time at which marked packets are received. A processing stage 66 is provided for determining the difference in the transit times between marked packets that have travelled along the first path and the transit

time of packets that have travelled along the second path. Thus, if  $S1$  is the "time" at which a previously null packet in the first stream is marked or stamped,  $A2$  is the time at which that packet is received at the receiving station 18, and likewise  $S2$  and  $A2$  are the times at which a corresponding packet is stamped and received respectively in the second stream, then the processing stage calculates respective values for  $(S1-S2)$  and  $(A1-A2)$ . The processing stage 66 then calculates the difference between the respective values for  $(S1-S2)$  and  $(A1-A2)$ . In this way, the processing stage simply determines the difference in arrival time  $(A1-A2)$ , taking into account any offset  $(S1-S2)$  in the time at which stamps are introduced into marked packets. Clearly, if respective marked packets can be introduced into each stream with a sufficiently small time separation, then  $(S1-S2)$  can be neglected, and only the difference in arrival times  $(A1-A2)$  need be considered.